



Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

Media Contact: Nedra Darling, OPA-IA Phone: 202-219-4152

For Immediate Release: January 3, 2018

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WASHINGTON â Bureau of Indian Affairsâ Directorâ Bryanâ Riceâ today announced hisâ appointmentâ ofâ Jamesâ Schock, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, asâ regionalâ directorâ of theâ BIAâsâ Southernâ Plainsâ Regionalâ Office in Anadarko, Okla.â Theâ appointmentâ will become effective on January 7, 2018.â Theâ [Southernâ Plainsâ Regionalâ Office](#)â oversees four agencies and one field office serving 24 federally recognized tribes in the states of Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

âIâm very pleased that Jimâ Schockâ will be joining myâ BIAâ regionalâ leadership team,â Riceâ said.â âHis years of operating trust management programs coupled with his extensive experience in financial management administration will enhance our mission in carrying out the Interior Departmentâs trust responsibilities to the tribes within theâ Southernâ Plainsâ Region.â

âJimâ Schockâ is an excellent addition to theâ BIAâsâ cadre ofâ regionalâ directors,â said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary â Indian Affairs John Tahsuda.â âI deeply appreciate his service as Indian Affairsâ chief financial officer, where he worked to ensure theâ BIAâ received clean audit findings and maintained its financial management obligations, as well as his service in administering the Bureauâs trust services programs.â

âI want to thankâ Directorâ Riceâ and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Tahsuda for this opportunity to directly serve the tribes in theâ Southernâ Plainsâ Region,â Schockâ said.â âIâm looking forward to working with theâ regionalâ office staff on improving how we currently deliver services to these tribal governments and their communities, as well as developing new ways to accomplish our mission.â

Prior to his currentâ appointment,â Schockâ had been serving as Indian Affairsâ chief financial officer, located in Reston, Va., since 2013.â Theâ [chief financial officer](#)â serves as the principal financial management advisor to the Assistant Secretary â Indian Affairs and other senior Indian Affairs officials.

Schockâ began his federal career over 30 years ago as a revenue agent with the Internal Revenue Service in 1986 at the agencyâs St. Paul, Minn., location, a position he held until he moved to the Department of the Interior in 1999â where he joined theâ [Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians \(OST\)](#)â as a management analyst.â Since then, he gained broad experience in many of the financial programs that the Department is responsible for under its part of the federal trust relationship with the federally recognized tribes.

â In November 2011,â Schockâ joined theâ BIAâ at its Washington, D.C., headquarters as the associate deputy bureauâ directorâ for the Office of Trust Services, which enhanced his experience in the trust responsibility through his management of the Bureauâs Realty and Title, Natural Resources, Forestry, and Water and Power programs.â He served in that capacity until November 2013.

Prior to working for the Office of Trust Services,Â SchockÂ served from February 2011 to November 2011 as an OST fiduciary trust officer, and was posted at the BureauÂsÂ [EasternÂ RegionalÂ Office](#)Â in Nashville, Tenn.Â Prior to thatÂ appointment, he served as deputyÂ directorÂ for OSTÂs Office of Trust Review and Audit in Albuquerque, N.M., from February 2004 to February 2011.Â As such, he was responsible for reviewing the trust processing work of self-governance tribes.

From October 2002 to February 2004,Â SchockÂ worked for theÂ BIAÂsÂ [MidwestÂ RegionalÂ Office](#)Â in Ft. Snelling, Minn. (now located in Bloomington, Minn.), where he served asÂ regionalÂ finance officer for almost two years before going back to OST in Albuquerque.

Â SchockÂ has been a certified public accountant since 1996.Â He received an accounting degree in 1985 from Dickinson State University in North Dakota.

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<https://www.bia.gov/as-ia/opa/online-press-release/bia-director-bryan-rice-announces-appointment-james-schock-southern>